

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 IO-14 AF-10 /141 W

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R 291250Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2395

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR TS MO SP

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA'S VISIT TO MOROCCO

REF: RABAT 2999

1. PRESIDENT BOURBUIBA HAD FULL SCHEDULE IN RABAT JUNE
28. FOLLOWING UP ON HIS 30-MINUTE TETE A TETE WITH KING
HASSAN JUNE 27, HE AND MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY MET WITH KING
AND MOROCCAN DELEGATION ON MORNING OF JUNE 28. HE THEN
DEDICATED HIMSELF TO ISTIQLAL PARTY, MEETING WITH MEMBERS
OF PARTY'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND LATER IN AFTERNOON
GOING TO MOHAMMED V THEATER WHERE PARTY WAS HOLDING
OBSERVANCES ON FORTIETH DAY AFTER DEATH OF ALLAL EL FASSI.
BEFORE PACKED, HIGHLY ENTHUSIASTIC HOUSE, WHICH CONTAINED
PRIME MINISTER AND MOST OF MEMBERS OF CABINET, DIPLOMATIC
CORPS AND OTHER NOTABLES, HE DELIVERED 15-MINUTE EULOGY.
SPEECH RECALLED HIS CONTACTS WITH ALLAL EL FASSI DURING
MAGHREB INDEPENDENCE STRUGGLE, STRESSED HIS GOOD FEELINGS
FOR ALAOUITE DYNASTY AND NOTED COMMON BONDS BETWEEN
RABAT, ALGIERS AND TUNIS. HE DESCRIBED KING AS BEING
QUOTE LIKE A SON UNQUOTE. A SIMILAR REMARK MADE IN 1961

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WHEN HE CAME HERE FOR MOHAMMED V'S FUNERAL IS SAID TO

HAVE ANGERED KING, BUT MOROCCANS WE SPOKE WITH LAST EVENING DOUBT THAT NEW ALLUSION WILL CAUSE PROBLEMS. HAVING FINISHED SPEECH, BOURGUIBA REMAINED IN HALL FOR TWO MORE HOURS TO HEAR TEN ORATORS. (THIS CAUSED MUCH CONSTERNATION AMONG HIS STAFF WHICH CLEARLY ANXIOUS TO LEAVE SOONER.) HE THEN DEPARTED FOR GUEST PALACE TO HOST STATE DINNER.

2. JOINT COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED IN THISMORNING'S PRESS BRIEF AND UNINFORMATIVE. IT CONTAINS USUAL BOWS TO ARAB AND PALESTINIAN CAUSES AND DENOUNCES ISRAELI RAIDS. ON SPANISH COLONIALISM, IT REFERS TO MOROCCAN SAHARA AND NOTES TUNISIAN SUPPORT FOR MOROCCAN EFFORTS TO LIBERATE TERRITORIES. LANGUAGE IS CONSIDERED HERE TO BE SLIGHT CONCESSION TO MOROCCAN POSITION ON SAHARA.

3. COMMENT: ACCORDING TO LE MONDE, THIS IS QUOTE SUPREME FIGHTER'S UNQUOTE FIRST VISIT HERE ON BILATERAL BUSINESS IN NINE YEARS. MOROCCANS RECOGNIZE THAT HE IS FEELING HIS YEARS AND RECOUNT VARIOUS STORIES DEMONSTRATING HIS SENILITY. NEVERTHELESS, THEY RECOGNIZE HIS STATUE IN MAGHREB INDEPENDENCE STRUGGLE AND SEEM PLEASED THAT HE HAS COME. AT THIS POINT, APPEARS THAT VISIT HAS HAD DESIRED EFFECT OF BRINGING MOROCCAN-TUNISIAN RELATIONS BACK TO NORMAL AFTER 1973 MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND DJERBA ANNOUNCEMENT.
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